

HOUSE BILL No. 1238

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-20-32.5.

Synopsis: RITE program grants. Provides that the education roundtable, with approval by the state board of education, shall develop the rewarding innovation, technology, and excellence (RITE) program to award grants to school corporations whose schools have exhibited improvement toward benchmarks developed by the state board of education. Provides that a school corporation that applies for a grant under the RITE program must demonstrate how the school corporation's: (1) innovation; (2) use of technology; or (3) other efforts to achieve excellence; have led to improvement in meeting the benchmarks. Specifies that grants under the RITE program must be made from the state general fund. Provides that the amounts necessary to make grants under the RITE program are appropriated from the state general fund. Provides that a school corporation receiving a grant under the RITE program must match the grant at a rate that is at least \$1 of local money for each \$1 granted to the school corporation. Limits to \$50,000 the total amount of all grants that may be made to a particular school corporation under the RITE program. Limits to \$1,000,000 the total amount of all grants that may be made to all school corporations under the RITE program for all state fiscal years.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

GiaQuinta

January 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.



First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1238

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-32.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2015]:
4 **Chapter 32.5. Rewarding Innovation, Technology, and**
5 **Excellence (RITE) Program**
6 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "RITE program" refers to the**
7 **rewarding innovation, technology, and excellence program**
8 **established under section 2 of this chapter.**
9 **Sec. 2. The education roundtable established by IC 20-19-4-2,**
10 **with approval by the state board, shall establish the rewarding**
11 **innovation, technology, and excellence program. The education**
12 **roundtable shall administer the RITE program. As requested by**
13 **the education roundtable, the department shall assist the education**
14 **roundtable in administering the RITE program.**
15 **Sec. 3. (a) The education roundtable, with approval by the state**



1 board, shall develop the RITE program to award grants to school
2 corporations whose schools have exhibited improvement toward
3 benchmarks developed by the state board under section 4 of this
4 chapter.

5 (b) The grants awarded under the RITE program must be made
6 from the state general fund. The amounts necessary to make the
7 grants under the RITE program are appropriated from the state
8 general fund.

9 Sec. 4. (a) The state board shall develop benchmarks to be used
10 for purposes of awarding grants under the RITE program.

11 (b) A school corporation that applies for a grant under the
12 RITE program must demonstrate how the school corporation's:

- 13 (1) innovation;
14 (2) use of technology; or
15 (3) other efforts to achieve excellence;

16 have led to improvement in meeting the benchmarks developed
17 under subsection (a).

18 Sec. 5. (a) The education roundtable shall develop standards and
19 guidelines for school corporations that wish to apply for a grant
20 under the RITE program.

21 (b) The education roundtable shall determine which
22 benchmarks are appropriate for a particular school corporation
23 applying for a grant under the RITE program.

24 (c) A school corporation applying for a grant under the RITE
25 program shall, for two (2) school years, certify to the education
26 roundtable the information requested by the education roundtable
27 to determine the school corporation's improvement in meeting the
28 benchmarks developed under section 4(a) of this chapter.

29 Sec. 6. After reviewing an application submitted by a school
30 corporation and the information submitted by the school
31 corporation under section 5(c) of this chapter, the education
32 roundtable may determine that the school corporation is entitled
33 to a grant under the RITE program. If the education roundtable
34 makes a determination to award a grant to a school corporation,
35 the education roundtable shall determine the amount of the grant
36 and the restrictions, if any, on the purposes for which the grant
37 may be used.

38 Sec. 7. A school corporation receiving a grant under the RITE
39 program must match the grant at a rate that is at least one dollar
40 (\$1) of local money for each one dollar (\$1) granted to the school
41 corporation. The local money used to match the grant may include
42 money from the school corporation, a public school foundation, a



1 community foundation, or any other private source.

2 Sec. 8. (a) The total amount of all grants that may be made to a
3 particular school corporation under the RITE program for all
4 state fiscal years may not exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

5 (b) The total amount of all grants that may be made to all school
6 corporations under the RITE program for all state fiscal years may
7 not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

